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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/590,786

07/20/2007

Heike Gielen-Haertwig

BHC 041037

1365

35969

7590

12/03/2008

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EXAMINER

JAISLE, CECILIA M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1624

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

12/03/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/590,786	Applicant(s) GIELEN-HAERTWIG ET AL.	
	Examiner Cecilia M. Jaisle	Art Unit 1624	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 September 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 and 21-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6, 10-12, 14 and 21-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 7-9 and 13 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED OFFICE ACTION

Lack of Unity

Applicants' election of Group I, claims 1-14 and 21-23, with traverse in the Response of Sep. 4, 2008 is acknowledged. Claims 1-14 and 21-23 are under examination only to the extent that they are directed to the elected subject matter, compounds of Formulas (I) and (I) in which A is phenyl; otherwise, claims 1-14 and 21-23 are withdrawn from examination.

Applicants traverse on the ground that the search and examination of the various Groups would be coextensive. Although this may be true in the US classification system, a search of the literature for these three Groups would be separate and burdensome. For this reason and for all the reasons advanced in the Office Action of June 5, 2008, this holding of Lack of Unity is proper.

Rejections Under 35 USC 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 21-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, because the specification does not reasonably provide enablement for treatment of acute and chronic inflammatory, ischemic or remodeling processes in a human or animal (claim 21), such as the processes of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, acute coronary

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syndrome, acute myocardial infarction or development of heart failure (claim 22) or for inhibiting neutrophil elastase in a human or animal (claim 23). The specification does not enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to use the invention commensurate in scope with these claims. The following reasons apply to this enablement rejection.

Many diseases said to be controlled by the claimed compounds, such as COPD, are known as difficult to treat. At present no known drug can successfully prevent or reverse the course of many of these diseases. See Eur. Resp. Soc., http://www.newtocopd.com/currentaffairsnews/list751_item17680.aspx, downloaded 1/15/08, "... there are currently no effective treatments for COPD ..."

Substantiation of utility and its scope is required when utility is "speculative," "sufficiently unusual" or not provided. *Ex parte Jovanovics, et al.*, 211 USPQ 907, 909 (BPAI 1981). See *Hoffman v. Klaus*, 9 USPQ2d 1657 (BPAI 1988) and *Ex parte Powers*, 220 USPQ 924 (BPAI 1982) about types of testing needed to support *in vivo* uses.

Applicants' attention is drawn to the Revised Interim Utility and Written Description Guidelines, at 66 FR 1092-1099 (2001), emphasizing that "a claimed invention must have a specific and substantial utility." See also MPEP 2163, *et. seq.* This disclosure is not sufficient to enable the claimed methods based solely on the disclosed activity.

MPEP § 2164.01(a) states:

A conclusion of lack of enablement means that, based on the evidence regarding each of the above factors, the specification, at the time the application was filed, would not have taught one skilled in the art how to make and/or use the full scope of the claimed invention without undue

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experimentation. *In re Wright*, 999 F.2d 1557,1562, 27 USPQ2d 1510, 1513 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

Many factors require consideration to determine if sufficient evidence supports a conclusion that a disclosure satisfies the enablement requirement and whether any necessary experimentation is “undue.” MPEP 2164.01(a). These factors include: (1) claim breadth; (2) nature of the invention; (3) state of the prior art; (4) level of predictability in the art; (5) amount of direction provided by the inventor; (6) presence of working examples; and (7) quantity of experimentation needed to make or use the invention based on the content of the disclosure. *In re Wands*, 8 USPQ2d 1400, 1404 (Fed. Cir. 1988) (reversing PTO’s determination that claims to methods for hepatitis B surface antigen detection did not satisfy enablement requirement). *In re Goodman* 29 USPQ2d 2010, 2013 (CAFC 1993). Application of these factors to the present application supports the determination that this disclosure fails to satisfy the enablement requirement.

1. Breadth of the claims:

(a) Scope of the methods. The claims cover pharmaceutical methods using thousands compounds of Formulas (I) and (IA) in which A is phenyl.

(b) Scope of the diseases covered. The diseases construed by the claims have been described above. The specification fails to identify results of treatment with the methods of this invention in humans and non-murine animals.

2. Nature of the invention and predictability in the art: The invention is directed toward medicine and is physiological in nature. It is well established that “the scope of enablement varies inversely with the degree of unpredictability of the factors

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involved,” and physiological activity is considered an unpredictable factor. *In re Fisher*, 166 USPQ 18, 24 (CCPA 1970).

Pharmacological activity in general is unpredictable. In applications involving physiological activity, such as the present:

The first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. §112 effectively requires that the scope of the claims must bear a reasonable correlation to the scope of enablement provided by the specification to persons of ordinary skill in the art.

Plant Genetic Systems v. DeKalb Genetics, 65 USPQ2d 1452 (CAFC 2003).

- 3. Direction and Guidance:** That provided is very limited. The dosage range information is meager at best. It is generic, the same for all disorders the specification covers. No specific direction or guidance provides a regimen or dosage effective specifically for all of the conditions construed by the claims.
- 4. State of the prior art:** The art indicates the need for undue experimentation.

Regarding NE inhibition and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, Roghanian, et al., Am. J. of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine, Vol. 174, 2006, 1189-1109, describe an area for future clinical research:

In conclusion, our data show that NE and NE-containing secretions from patients with COPD [chronic obstructive pulmonary disease] or CF [cystic fibrosis] can disable DC [dendritic cell] function by interfering both with the ability of immature DCs to mature in response to bacterial LPS stimulation, and by reducing the antigen-presenting activity of mDCs. Although the in vivo effects of these changes remain to be investigated, the reduced Th1 cytokine levels induced by NE treatment of CD cells may, in part, explain the reported Th2 imbalance in the lung immune response to bacteria in patients with CF and the reported loss of IFN- λ -secreting cells in patients with COPD. This local Th2-biased phenotype may be instrumental in the inability of these patients to clear semifacultative intracellular pathogens in the lung ... as suggested recently by a variety of animal and human studies. In that context, our strategy of overexpression of the elastase

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inhibitor, elafin, could be dually advantageous by inhibiting NE and, as shows recently, by providing a Th1-biasing signal in the lungs.

Regarding NE inhibition and acute coronary syndrome, Hsieh, et al., Bioorganic & Med. Chem. Lett., 17 (2007) 1812-1817, state, "Arterial thromboembolic diseases, for example, acute coronary syndrome and ischemic stroke, which are caused by platelet aggregation, are the major causes of death in developed countries." Hsieh tested the 2-benzoylamino-benzoid acid derivatives, 6d and 6e (Table 2), and reported, "[C]ompounds 6d and 6e exhibited dual inhibitory effects on platelet aggregation and NE release; therefore, these two compounds may represent new leads for development as anti-inflammatory and anti-platelet aggregatory agents."

Regarding NE inhibition and acute myocardial infarction, Vermeylen, et al., J. of Thrombosis and Haemostasis, 3: 1955-1961, 2005, reported, "Specific neutrophil elastase inhibition in the lung did not affect lung inflammation, but reduced peripheral thrombogenicity, suggesting that in this instance neutrophil elastase could have a role as platelet 'primer', as suggested by previous *in vitro* investigations."

Regarding NE inhibition and heart failure, Kyne, et al., Am. Heart J., 139(1):94-100, 2000, reported:

The results suggest that relative neutrophilia may serve as a simple, noninvasive marker to identify patients who are at high risk for development of CHF [congestive heart failure] after myocardial infarction. If the peripheral neutrophil count truly reflects the myocardial inflammatory response, future interventions that are designed to limit this response could help to reduce morbidity and mortality rates associated with CHF occurring after AMI [acute myocardial infarction].

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The ability of an agent that exhibits activities shown in the specification to treat all diseases-conditions construed by the claim, especially in humans and non-murine animals, remains open to further study and proof.

5. Working Examples: Applicants have not provided competent evidence that the instantly disclosed tests are highly predictive for all uses disclosed and embraced by the claim language for all of the intended hosts.

6. Skill of those in the art: Roghanian, Hsieh, Vermeylen, the American Heart Journal and the European Respiratory Society question the ability of a single class of compounds to effectively treat all types of diseases and/or conditions construed by the claim; they confirm the need for additional research.

7. Quantity of experimentation needed to make or use the invention. Based on the disclosure's content, an undue burden would be placed on one skilled in the pharmaceutical arts to use the invention, since the disclosure gives the skilled artisan inadequate guidance regarding pharmaceutical use, for reasons explained above. The state of the art, as discussed herein, indicates the requirement for undue experimentation.

See MPEP 2164.01(a), discussed *supra*, justifying the conclusion of lack of enablement commensurate with the claims. Undue experimentation will be required to practice Applicants' invention.

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The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1, 2 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1, 12: Correct the spelling of “trifluoromethylearbonyl,”
“allcylaminocarbonyl.”

Claim 2: Correct the spelling of “beteroaryl,” “allcylarnino,” “allcanediyl.”

Rejections Under 35 USC 102

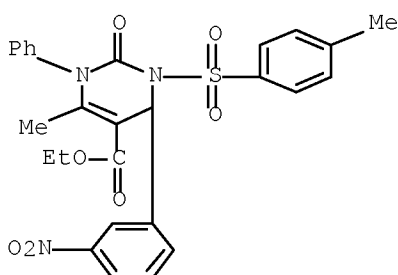
The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 102 that forms the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

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Claims 1, 5, 6, 8, 10, 11 and 14 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) over Namazi, et al., J. Het. Chem. (2001), 38(5), 1051-1054, describing RN 398456-91-2, 5-Pyrimidinecarboxylic acid, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-6-methyl-3-[(4-methylphenyl)sulfonyl]-4-(3-nitrophenyl)-2-oxo-1-phenyl-, ethyl ester,



Obvious Double Patenting Rejection

The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the “right to exclude” granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. A nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection is appropriate where the conflicting claims are not identical, but at least one examined application claim is not patentably distinct from the reference claim(s) because the examined application claim is either anticipated by, or would have been obvious over, the reference claim(s). *In re Berg*, 46 USPQ2d 1226 (Fed. Cir. 1998); *In re Goodman*, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and *In re Thorington*, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) or 1.321(d) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent either is shown to be commonly owned with this application, or claims an invention made as a result of activities undertaken within the scope of a joint research agreement.

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

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Claims 1-5 and 21-23 are provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as unpatentable over pending claims 1-21 of US 10/527391. Although the present claims are not identical to claims 1-21 of US 10/527391, they are not patentable distinct from each other because the present claims substantially overlap the compounds of claims 1-21 of US 10/527391. The compounds of the formula (I) of claims 1-21 of US 10/527391 have the same formula (I) as the compounds of the present claims and the definitions of each of the variables overlap or are co-extensive with each other. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to select any compound from claims 1-21 of US 10/527391 and use those compounds, because the skilled artisan would have had the reasonable expectation that the species of the genus of claims 1-21 of US 10/527391 would have similar properties and thus the same use as the compounds of the present claims, i.e., as pharmaceutical therapeutic agents. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to select the presently claimed compounds from the genus in claims 1-21 of US 10/527391 because such compounds would have been suggested by the reference as a whole. The claims are prima facie obvious over one another and a reference rendering the claims of one application obvious would also render the claims of the other obvious and this would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in this art.

Applicants request that this requirement be held in abeyance until claimed subject matter is deemed allowable.

Objectionable Claims

Claims 1-14 and 21-23 are objectionable as directed to both elected and non-elected subject matter. They should be rewritten to recite only elected subject matter.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cecilia M. Jaisle, J.D. whose telephone number is 571-272-9931. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday; 8:30 am through 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. James O. Wilson can be reached on 571-272-0661. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Cecilia M. Jaisle

11/14/2008

/James O. Wilson/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1624